

Message

From: CN=Palmer Hough/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US [CN=Palmer Hough/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US]
Sent: 1/27/2011 3:53:11 PM
To: OW-OWOW-WD
Subject: Fw: REMINDER: 1/27 Bristol Bay Briefing from Scientists, 2-4 PM ET in Kenai

WD:

A number of scientists will be briefing Denise from 2-4 PM today regarding the importance of the fisheries resources in Bristol Bay and their vulnerability to adverse impacts associated with large-scale mining. As many of you know, numerous stakeholders have requested that EPA initiate an advance 404(c) action in the Bristol Bay to protect the Bay's valuable fisheries resources. Information about the speakers is below.

Anyone who would like to sit in on today's briefing is welcome.

Thanks, Palmer

Palmer Hough, Environmental Scientist
tel: 202.566.1374 | fax: 202.566.1375

Wetlands Division
U.S. EPA Headquarters (MC 4502T)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460
www.epa.gov/wetlands

----- Forwarded by Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US on 01/27/2011 10:49 AM -----

From: Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US
To: Brian Frazer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Christopher Hunter/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, David Evans/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Heidi Karp/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Jim Pendergast/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Julia McCarthy/R8/USEPA/US@EPA, Kevin Minoli/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Marcel Tchaou/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Ross Geredien/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Tanya Code/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Darren Reid/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 01/26/2011 12:08 PM
Subject: REMINDER: 1/27 Bristol Bay Briefing from Scientists, 2-4 PM ET in Kenai

Folks:

Just a reminder regarding tomorrow's briefing on Bristol Bay. Below is background information on the briefing including bio-info for the numerous scientists who will be coming. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Folks from R10 will be calling into the briefing.

Thanks, Palmer

Background on 1/27 OWOW Bristol Bay Briefing from Scientists (provided by TU)

Who: I will be traveling to DC with a team of scientists that are sharing current science about the potential impacts on Bristol Bay from the proposed Pebble mine as well as The Nature Conservancy's recently published: An Assessment of Ecological Risk to Wild Salmon Systems from Large-scale Mining in the Nushagak and Kvichak Watersheds of the Bristol Bay Basin. The team includes a number of experts in their fields including Dr. Ann Maest, Dr. David Chambers, and Dr. Tom Quinn. Bios are listed below.

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Why: The USEPA is currently considering requests from tribes, commercial fishermen, native corporations and sportsmen for a preemptive Clean Water Act 404c action in Bristol Bay Alaska. Bristol Bay is home to the largest wild salmon fishery on the planet and is currently threatened by the proposed Pebble mine. If developed, Pebble would be the largest open pit mine in North America. While the decision to invoke 404c in Bristol Bay will rest solely with the EPA, a number of other federal agencies manage resources in this area and will have the opportunity to bring their expertise and knowledge to the table. We wish to begin a dialog with these agencies about the resources at risk and the existing science on the subject.

When: January 27, 2011.

Biographies:

Ann S. Maest: Ann is an aqueous geochemist with expertise in the fate and transport of natural and anthropogenic contaminants in groundwaters, surface waters, and sediments. The results of Dr. Maest's research have been published in books and in peer-reviewed journals, including Applied Geochemistry, Chemical Geology, Applied and Environmental Microbiology, and Environmental Science and Technology. Formerly, Dr. Maest was an independent environmental consultant specializing in water quality impacts of hard rock mining, transport of toxics in groundwater and surface waters, and drinking water quality.

Thomas Quinn: Dr. Thomas Quinn, a Professor at the University of Washington in the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, his research has focused on salmon ecology, evolution and conservation. Dr. Quinn has done research in B.C. in the past and is currently working on sockeye salmon stocks in western Alaska, and salmon and trout in Puget Sound. He has published over 200 scientific articles on salmon and trout.

David Chambers: David Chambers has 35 years of experience in mineral exploration and development – 15 years of technical and management experience in the mineral exploration industry, and for the past 20 years he has served as an advisor on the environmental effects of mining projects both nationally and internationally. He has Professional Engineering Degree in Physics from the Colorado School of Mines, a Master of Science Degree in Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, and is a registered professional geophysicist in California. Dr. Chambers received his Ph.D. in Environmental Planning from Berkeley where his doctoral dissertation analyzed the U.S. Forest Service's efforts to plan for and manage minerals on the National Forests.

Other participants include: David Albert - Conservation Science Director TNC Alaska, Shoren Brown - Alaska Policy Director Trout Unlimited, Sarah O'Neil - fisheries biologist.

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